

**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONFIGURATION,  
MANAGEMENT, AND MONITORING OF A COMPUTER  
NETWORK USING INHERITANCE**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5           A system and method using inheritance for the configuration, management,  
and/or monitoring of computer applications and devices via a computer network are  
disclosed. The method generally comprises calculating control settings to be enforced by  
an end node corresponding to a device of the network of devices, the control settings  
being calculated by the corresponding device. The control settings to be enforced by the  
10   end node are applicable to the device and the resources of the device. The calculation is  
performed by the end node or device by accessing data stored in a network directory  
defining a hierarchical tree structure containing nodes corresponding to the network of  
devices and defining control settings corresponding to and to be enforced upon the  
resources available to the devices. The control settings corresponding to the resources of  
15   each device are selectively inherited down the hierarchical tree structure of the network  
directory.